

PEACE RACE

On May 9, Victory Day, the 35th Peace Race is getting under way in Prague with a prologue, a 5.7 km race. Later the cyclists from 20 countries will cover 1,941 kilometres across Czechoslovakia, Poland and the GDR, where the last hurrah of World War II rumbled 37 years ago. The race winds up in Berlin on May 23.

The international amateur cycling calendar contains a host of races, but this is the most popular one. Galina Saldikhuzina, former Soviet cyclist, now head of the cycling and motor sport department of the Moscow Physical Training Institute, told an MNI correspondent:

"I entered the event nine times, captaining USSR teams on 12 occasions. In 1962 he won an individual title."

I would call this competition a university of cycling sciences. Saldikhuzina emphasized as its participants won world and Olympic medals on many occasions. The entrants compete there not only among themselves, but

also have to brave the wind, rain, snow, treacherous mountain roads and lengthy flat stretches, occasionally up to 200 kilometres long, he pointed out.

Victory goes not just to the strongest but to the most well-knit teams. I was always struck by the way racers came to each other's aid. On several occasions cycling mechanics working for turn-in teams helped me with my cycling gear when Soviet mechanics were not around. Sometimes racers are so washed out they just cannot make it to a leading point — only to find their rivals readily offering sandwiches or water, Saldikhuzina noted. The USSR enters its 29th race. On sixteen occasions we won the team title, and captured eight individual titles.

Thousands of people usually line the race route. They come there not only to see top cyclists and egg on their compatriots. People who cherish the ideals of peace, friendship and cooperation among nations come there he stressed.

Expedition head Yevgeny Tsvintzov telegrammed to Leonid Brezhnev saying that the first Soviet Everest expedition had reached the summit on May 10.

Noted British climber Lord

Edmund Hillary

and others

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THE WORLD

NATO OUT TO BOLSTER ARMS RACE

Brussels. A recent session of the NATO Defence Planning Committee attended by NATO defense ministers was keyed by their emphasis on intensified military effort.

US Defense Secretary C. Weinberger had arrived in Brussels in advance, when the bloc's "Eurogroup" was still in session, and immediately started brawling with the allies. The USA is mainly pressing for wrecking attempts to scrap the plans for deployment in Western Europe of around 600 new American medium-range nuclear missiles.

Efforts are also being made to accelerate implementation of several other NATO military programmes; evidence of this is a Brussels memo integrating a batch of British early warning and control Nimrod planes within NATO. The planes will be part of recently formed NATO air spying service, along-

PENTAGON'S WAR GAMES IN THE CARIBBEAN

New York. Recently more than 2,000 US marines landed on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques. M-50 tanks were also "brought in" from amphibious ships.

The Vieques landing was a key element in the Ocean Venture-82 large-scale military games staged by the American military. This provocative show of strength by the Pentagon in the Caribbean involves 60 combat ships, including two aircraft carriers and 350 planes of various sorts, including B-52 strategic bombers. About 45,000 men are taking part, equipped with the most up-to-date weapons.

Spokesmen for the Pentagon and the US administration do not conceal the fact that Ocean Venture-82 is intended to demonstrate the "determination" of American imperialism to "defend its vital interests" in the Caribbean. According to the US Secretary for the Navy, J. Lehman, the American Navy is capable of blockading "any area of the Caribbean".

Quoting well-informed sources, the AP news agency stresses that the games, particularly the mass invasion of Vieques, are also intended as a demonstration of American power aimed at Cuba.

The landing in Guantánamo, part of Cuban territory usurped by the USA, had the same purpose in view.

USA responsible for chemical arms race

(Continued from page 1)

The transference of the arms race into the sphere of chemical weapons, the Soviet scientists believe, will further aggravate the international atmosphere and increase the danger of an outbreak of war



Drawing by Igor Smirnov

BUSH LEAVES PEKING EMPTY-HANDED

Peking. No results have emerged from the talks held between US Vice-President G. Bush and Deng Xiaoping, Premier Zhao Ziyang of the Chinese People's Republic, "Violation of the principles of the joint Sino-American Communiqué on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries" and "an encroachment on CPR sovereignty".

The negotiations centered on American deliveries of weapons, military equipment and spare parts to Taiwan. Peking believed

that the differences between the two countries on this topic still remained, and further negotiations to overcome these differences would be continued between the two countries.

With regard to Vice-G. Bush quoted president Reagan's statement that the United States would not let its old friends in need.

African ministers urge more solidarity with Namibian people

towards Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, wishing to embroil this regional organization, set up to reach specific economic and cultural goals, in a "Pacific community" of states linked by military agreements. This might also include Japan and China whose earnings for South-East Asia's riches are growing proportionately to their military potential.

ASEAN will turn 15 this year; all through these years Washington strategists have been working hard to change this organization into a military alliance, and block its idea for a peace zone in South-East Asia. Until fairly recently they met with resistance from the ASEAN leaders, and now, judging by Suharto's statement, a new round in this confrontation is in the offing.

In alluding to the need for "joint action" to ward off the "communist threat", the USA is forcing the ASEAN nations to boost arms spending. According to "Financial Times", over the past seven years Thailand nearly tripled its spending, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia doubled it, and the Philippines boast a 1.5 times or so increase. Singapore and the Philippines have significantly intensified arms production to become arms exporters. Significantly, American arms sales to the ASEAN countries will have doubled by 1985.

All this is evidence enough that the USA has been constantly eroding peace and security in South-East Asia, and still seems far from being totally satisfied. Why Washington thinks its military and economic

PEOPLE

The Indefatigable French researcher Jacques-Yves Cousteau is setting out to research the giant Brazilian Amazon River. According to him, this would still be the most exciting, risky and dangerous trip of oil he has ever undertaken. He is planning to spend a year on the river.

THE SUN SHINES AT NIGHT

The solar energy is finding ever increasing application throughout the world. The Japanese

are building a road link between Europe and Africa via the Straits of Gibraltar. Whereas the Spanish government has commissioned a project to build an underwater tunnel the Moroccan government, on the other side, has asked two organizations to find out the best idea for a rigid link between the two continents such as a bridge, a tunnel, a tube, etc., report the "Financial Times" of London.

The train will boast advanced electric power installation and its dining car will have modern refrigerating facilities.

According to the West German DPA news agency, the orga-

nization of the century was an

awful and terrible

and the world's largest diamonds

weighing 234.03 carats was offered for

sale. The gem had been found in

South Africa in 1883. The minimum price not on it by the company is 2 million dollars.

OF INTEREST

Family movie

Jean-Paul Belmondo stars in new movie "Aces of Aces" in Munich to be shown in theatres next October. The actor's son Paul is taking part in a movie for the first time. He is on assignment director. The father thinks this is a good beginning.

How long

A moment of fright

"A moment of fright" is the

time that passes between a point

and a point when he puts on the brakes. It has

been discovered that it has not

one but one and a half seconds.

This means that travelling at

50 km/h, a driver begins to react

when his car has travelled 21

metres and 401 metres after

he sees the danger as it was

previously believed. This conclusion has been made by

golos off the road in the West German

city of Cologne.

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A ship in a bottle

To make miniature replicas of

all the most famous ships of the

16th-18th centuries Spanish fleet

— this aim has been set by the 47-

year-old bank clerk Juan Rodriguez

of the Banco de Bilbao. Up to now he

and his wife have made 14 models.

Each of them: 22 cm long

and 18 cm wide and is placed

inside a bottle whose diameter

does not exceed 20 millimetres.

THE WORLD

Al-Assad on Soviet and American policy in the Middle East

FACTS and EVENTS

© A demand for the recognition of Japan's right to wage war has come from the country's ruling Liberal-Democratic Party. This militarist claim is contained in an official document issued by the LDP Commission for the Study of the Constitution.

© During the last week of April, border areas of the People's Republic of Kampuchea were bombed on 110 occasions by Thai artillery, the Kampuchean news agency SPK reported.

© Under certain conditions nuclear weapons may be used in Spain. This is clear from a statement issued in Washington by the Spanish Foreign Minister, P. Pérez Llorca, following his meeting with American Secretary of State, Alexander Haig.

© Vessels of the American Seventh Fleet will take part in the 11-day joint US-Philippine naval exercises which are to begin on May 18 off the north coast of the Philippine island of Luzon.

President contrasted the military aid which the Soviet Union gave Syria to defend its independence with the military deliveries of weapons to the Israeli aggressor for the purpose of preserving Tel Aviv's neutrality towards the Arab states.

On the problem of Egypt's return to the Arab fold, President Assad noted that Egypt's removal from the Arab axis had been caused by Carter and that its return is conditional on the abrogation of these agreements.

Washington. Speaking at a press conference, president Reagan has announced that his administration and the Senate Budget Commission have reached a compromise over the proposed 1983 federal budget.

The fierce struggle which arose over the proposed budget is striking. A few hours before the press conference, the Senate Budget Committee had unanimously rejected the draft budget regarded by the administration as the key element in its economic policy. The commission maintained it was necessary to reduce military expenditure, to put an end to the growth in the budget deficit and to modify the taxation policy — none of which provisions featured in the draft budget.

The commission only voted in favour of a compromise version of the budget following heavy pressure from the President.

In order to protect apple orchards from unexpected frosts, farms in the Potow district in the GDR use ice. Specialists have found out that the buds of trees about to bloom can withstand frosts of up to -9°C. In order to make an ice covering, usual watering installations are used. Beneath the ice layer a more favourable environment is created, with temperatures remaining above -0.5°C whatever the temperature outside.

The main provision of the compromise version consists in a reduction of the budget deficit to be achieved by severe economy measures including a pay freeze for government employees, and further drastic cuts in expenditure on social programmes. Tax concessions for big business will remain virtually untouched. There will also be an increase in military expenditure, though on a smaller scale than the administration had hoped.

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In discussing the situation in the south of Africa, specialist Jacques-Yves Cousteau is setting out to research the giant Amazon River.

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Round the Soviet Union

THE FIRST VOLUME OF THE "HISTORICAL DICTIONARY OF THE BYELORUSSIAN LANGUAGE" HAS COME OUT OF PRINT CROWDING TWENTY YEARS OF PREPARATIONS BY LANGUAGE EXPERTS AT THE BYELORUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. Although it will take at least ten years to complete all the volumes of the dictionary, the scholars are in a great hurry in order to allow historians, few students, and men of letters to acquaint themselves as soon as possible with the wealth of information from numerous chronicles and ancient documents, or the cultural heritage of the people. It is an inexhaustible source of creative inspiration.

A SYSTEM OF ANTI-LANDSLIDE FORTIFICATIONS HAS BEEN COMMISSIONED BY LAND RECLAMATION WORKERS IN TAJIKISTAN. Dams and concrete canals built at the foot of the Kurem range will reliably protect cotton plantations in the lowland areas in the Leninabad and Syrdarya regions from landslides. The system built in Dzhorsan is the seventh in the mountainous area of cotton growing.

AMATEUR FISHERS FROM THE KIROV FISHING FARM STARTED OFF AN ART FESTIVAL IN THE HARJU REGION IN ESTONIA MARKING THE 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE USSR. The farm's basic amateur group, Randal, put on a suite based on dances of the Soviet peoples. The group, which enjoys wide recognition throughout this Baltic republic, also had much success touring France, Czechoslovakia, Sweden, Finland, the GDR and other countries with a big concert programme.

A DESIGN FOR A RECREATION CENTRE ON LAKE BAIKAL BY GRADUATING STUDENT K. ASHKHMIN FROM THE IRKUTSK POLYTECHNIC WAS VOTED AMONG THE BEST GRADUATION WORKS BY ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT AND COLLEGE STUDENTS WHO ENTERED IN A NATIONWIDE COMPETITION JUST ENDED IN IRKUTSK. The author nicely blended the centre with the terrain and the nearby lake. There are nearly 50 colleges now training would-be architects.



IZHEVSK MOTORCYCLE MAKERS

The Izhevsk family of motorcycle — IZH-Yupiter, IZH-Planeta, IZH-Planeta-Sport — is well known both in this country and abroad. The latter has won a prize at the 33rd International Fair in Plovdiv. The Izhevsk vehicles are reliable, economical and easy to drive.

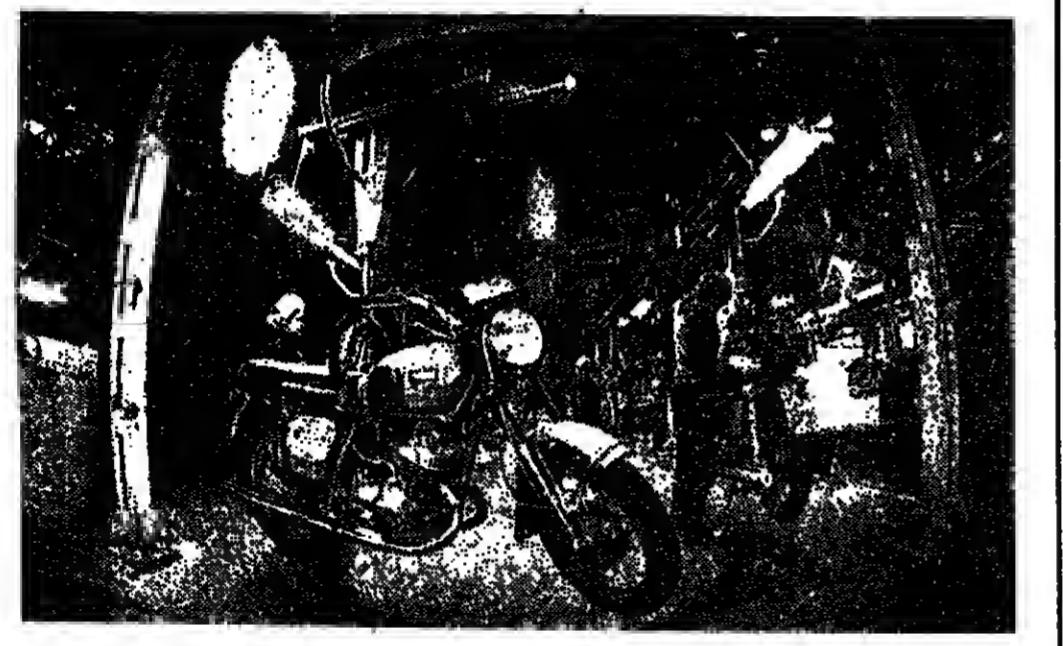
First Soviet motorcycles were made in Izhevsk, the capital of Udmurt Autonomous Republic, fifty years ago. More than 6 million of them have been turned out since. Izhevsk makes one of every three country's motorcycles.

Its assembly lines extending for over 30 km unite all the processes from part distribution to packing motorcycles — one every 40 seconds.

During the next five years the factory will switch over to another basic model, Yupiter-4.

This vehicle will soon take to the road.

Suspended conveyor.



TROUT FARMING IN SEAWATER

The local fishing cooperative "Banga" (Sur) in Latvia has started building an experimental factory for the breeding of trout in seawater. This fish usually dwells in fast-flowing mountain streams and rivers. The rottish trout firs were bred in seawater and gained in weight.

Special cages installed in the Gulf of Riga. The fish has been successfully adopted itself to seawater and gained in weight.

The trout firs which were born already in the Baltic waters will be reared in well-drained seawater reservoirs built at the new factory.

Such enterprises are to be built in other forms as well.

SIBERIA EXPLORED FROM OUTER SPACE

The scientists of the Novosibirsk Academic Centre have made maps of West Siberia rivers for past epochs of millions of years ago. They were able to trace the ancient sand-covered beds of the rivers Ob, Yenisei and other waterways with the help of photos taken by earth satellites and orbital stations.

This study of a remote part of Siberia has aroused great interest among specialists working on a project for diverting a part of the flow of Siberian rivers to the south so as to use this water for irrigation in the Central Asian Republics. Scientists have found out, for instance, that in the last half a million years the north of Western Siberia was cut off more than once from land to which barred the way of the great Siberian rivers to the Arctic Ocean. During such periods the Ob and Yenisei discharged their surplus water to southern regions of Western Siberia. The choice of directions, prompted by the old beds of the Ob and Yenisei, will help save funds in building hydroengineering stations for diverting waters from Siberia in the southern regions of the USSR.

Information on the earth obtained in orbit, is widely used in the geological, hydrological, biological and other explorations of Siberia, a fast-developing territory of the Soviet Union. New deposits of non-ferrous metals were discovered in the Taz-Balkan Area and the Far East with the help of pictures taken in orbit. Information from outer space was also used in determining seismic districts along the route of the Balkan-Amer road, more than three thousand kilometres long.

NEW GAS FIELDS

IN TURKMENIA

A new gas field has been discovered in the east of Turkmenia. First gas has been obtained from a well which is nearly three kilometres deep in the area of Cherik in the Karakum Desert. It is planned to bring the extraction of gas to the republic in the current year to 81,000 million cubic metres. Ten new gas fields are to be developed for the purpose.

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OF INTEREST

ORIGINS OF THE RUSSIAN GUITAR

The exhibition in Zvenigorod near Moscow is remarkable for its lack of usual museum quiet. The music room which has been opened in the museum of history, architecture and arts is alive with sounds of guitars and balalaikas, mandolins, and domra. They were made in the village of Shikino near Moscow.

Making musical instruments has been the main occupation here for two hundred years, their products always in high demand among folk musicians and well-known throughout the country and abroad.

The Russian guitars, originally in Shikino. One should know many secrets to make it.

Not every wood is suitable, only fir and birch from the north,

Caucasian. To make the wood resonant, it is being dried up for years.

One more secret is known to the masters: the bolt connecting the finger board to the body is the only one used in the body

of the instrument, and not a single

nut or bolt.

Any one would be thrilled to play chess with the

wood made by Boris Fedorenko, a worker from the

Zaporozhian steel works. His pieces come in the

shape of Neptune, mermaids, dolphins, sea horses

and other sea creatures. His fig is a sort of mu-

seum where he displays his extraordinary figures.

He is a member of the city amateur art club at the

Palace of Metal Workers.

A whole corner of the Zaporozhian Museum is

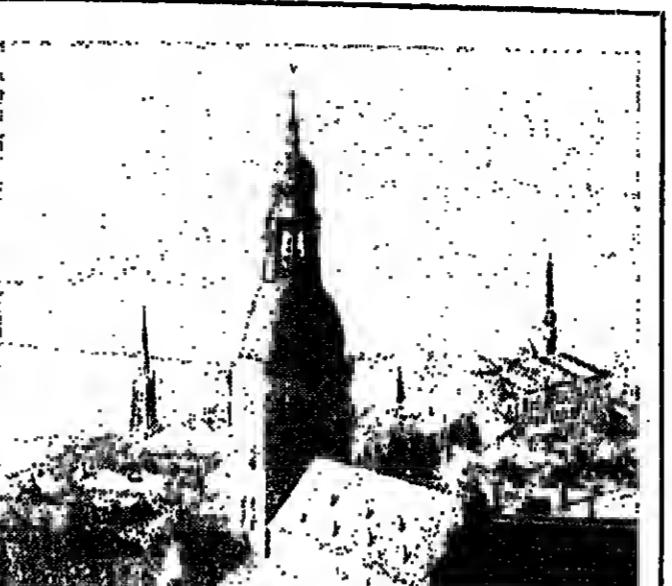
devoted to a display of items made by Fedorenko.

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INFORMATION No. 37, 1982

Places to visit

THE DOM CATHEDRAL IN RIGA



The cathedral weathervane surrounding the spire of the Dom Cathedral can be seen from any point in Riga. This ancient architectural monument in the Latvian capital is seven hundred years old. Started in 1211, it has been repeatedly modernized, and, as a result, its architecture combines most diverse styles.

For many centuries visitors have been admiring the tall Gothic vaults supported by powerful columns, coats of arms, woodcarving and stained-glass windows. The interior of the cathedral is spacious and light, with a high ceiling and large windows. The organ loft is located in the choir, and the organ itself is located in the organ loft.

At present, the Dom Cathedral is a museum and a concert hall. The heavy doors, bound by wrought iron, open several times a week to welcome lovers of music. Everyone coming to Riga wants to visit this famous concert hall, enjoy its high ceiling and to see the organ gleaming with its golden decorations.

WELCOME TO PLYOS

It has been decided to set up a historical, architectural and artistic preserve in the town of Plyos on the Volga River visited by thousands of tourists every year. The town, which is part of the Golden Ring of ancient Russian places, has several sanctuaries and tourist bases. The future museum preserve will create around the house-museum of Ivan Levitan, the picture

galleries and numerous historical monuments. Several churches are to be restored to accommodate different museums. The tourist complex will incorporate a hotel for one hundred guests with a restaurant, along with several services and shops. Industrial construction in the town is to cease completely, and the existing industries will be moved outside the town limits.

There has appeared a rival for the puzzle bearing the name of the man, a Hungarian architect, who invented it — the Rubik cube. Alexander Ordynets, an engineer from Kishinev, called his three-dimensional logical game the Moldavian pyramid. His invention has been patented.

Not so long ago fish and other marine life were caught in the turbulent waters along a narrow strip of the World Ocean. They are now found in the high seas. So far, something like a new promising area is going out. Water depths look nothing compared to land, but this is not so in reality: the ocean has its poor and rich regions, its gulf and its depths, its continents and its continents.

The South Seas Biology Institute has started studying marine ecosystems and structural features in ecological systems of elevated coastal areas. We plan to work in the Atlantic and the Indian oceans. The "Professor Vodanitsky" has conducted hydrological, hydrochemical and biological research in the tropical and subtropical Atlantic.

Bottom life has been discovered in flat mountain surfaces. Some species of fish, such as carp, ruff and particularly boatfish, are very tasty and have high calorific value. In future expeditions biologists will continue collecting detailed information on the aggregation of organisms on the elevated seabed.

The plan was drawn up taking into account the existence of several factors at work in the sea which will complicate the economic development of this country. The natural growth of labour resources is on the decline (it will only be one-fourth of what it was in the previous five years). There will be increased expenditure on developing new areas in the North and East of the USSR and on the modernization of many old industries; while expenditure on the development of infrastructure and protection of the environment is also going up.

Over the 1981-1985 five-year period there will be a significant change in the correlation between the accumulation and consumption (and, one of the vital structural ratios in the Soviet economy). The consumption load share, i.e., those resources which do not directly meet the needs of the population, will reach about 78 per cent in 1985, as against 75.3 per cent in 1980. The real per capita income of the population will increase by 16.4 per cent. This task is being successfully implemented: in 1981, incomes went up by 3.3 per cent.

The plan also envisages a change in another ratio — for the first time the growth rate in the output of consumer items will outstrip the rate of industrial growth taken as a whole, and of the growth in the means of production in particular. There have been noticeable shifts in this direction: the output of cultural and household items and of various economic goods increased by 16.7 per cent in 1981, whereas the overall growth in industrial production increased by 1.4 per cent.

The solution of the social problems will in many ways depend on the situation pertaining in agriculture — nearly 190 thousand million roubles having been allocated in capital investment in this area.

In the photo: Boris Fedorenko at work. A model chess piece (left); his ivory collection (right).

Science and technology

NEW STRANGE STARS

The staff of the Abastumian observatory (Georgia) have discovered 173 new strange stars which differ from ordinary stars by spectrum anomalies. The astronomers studied their distribution in galaxies, their spectrum, and luminosity characteristics. Only about 1,000 such stars have been discovered up till now.

Astrophysicists have established that some strange stars are characterized by a high content of magnesium, tungsten, carbon and helium — seven times as higher as that considered before.

The study of these stars has become possible thanks to the advanced equipment of the Georgian observatory situated 2,800 metres above sea level.

UNDERWATER OASES

The "Professor Vodanitsky" research vessel of the South Seas Biology Institute of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences has returned from another of its voyages to the Atlantic. There is what our correspondent was told by A. Kovalyov, chief of the expedition and head of Sci. (Biol.).

Not so long ago fish and other marine life were caught in the turbulent waters along a narrow strip of the World Ocean. They are now found in the high seas. So far, something like a new promising area is going out. Water depths look nothing compared to land, but this is not so in reality: the ocean has its poor and rich regions, its gulf and its depths, its continents and its continents.

At present the value of each tonne in growth is increasing. Whereas in the five years between 1970 and 1980 one per cent of the national income amounted to 3.8 thousand million roubles, in the present five-year plan it is already worth 4.4 thousand million roubles.

The plan was drawn up taking into account the existence of several factors at work in the sea which will complicate the economic development of this country. The natural growth of labour resources is on the decline (it will only be one-fourth of what it was in the previous five years). There will be increased expenditure on developing new areas in the North and East of the USSR and on the modernization of many old industries; while expenditure on the development of infrastructure and protection of the environment is also going up.

Over the 1981-1985 five-year period there will be a significant change in the correlation between the accumulation and consumption (and, one of the vital structural ratios in the Soviet economy). The consumption load share, i.e., those resources which do not directly meet the needs of the population, will reach about 78 per cent in 1985, as against 75.3 per cent in 1980. The real per capita income of the population will increase by 16.4 per cent. This task is being successfully implemented: in 1981, incomes went up by 3.3 per cent.

The plan also envisages a change in another ratio — for the first time the growth rate in the output of consumer items will outstrip the rate of industrial growth taken as a whole, and of the growth in the means of production in particular. There have been noticeable shifts in this direction: the output of cultural and household items and of various economic goods increased by 16.7 per cent in 1981, whereas the overall growth in industrial production increased by 1.4 per cent.

The solution of the social problems will in many ways depend on the situation pertaining in agriculture — nearly 190 thousand million roubles having been allocated in capital investment in this area.

In the photo: Boris Fedorenko at work. A model chess piece (left); his ivory collection (right).

VIEWPOINT

Five-year plan enters second year

Nikolai BAIBAKOV, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Chairman of the USSR Central Statistical Board

Under the 11th five-year plan in 1981-1985 this country will reach a qualitatively new level in the use of its available resources. We are dealing here with the intensification of the economy.

Should this formula be translated into the language of practical needs, it will mean first and foremost that the results of production outstrip expenditure.

The 11th five-year plan was drawn up with these requirements taken into account. Among other things, it envisages that the Soviet national income should grow faster than capital investment. It is planned that over the five years the former should increase by 10 per cent as compared with 9.4 per cent growth in capital investment. The equivalent figures for the previous five-year plan period were a 20.8 per cent rise in national income against a 10.2 per cent rise in national income.

To achieve a turning point in this tendency is rather complicated, but it has to be done. In the first year of the new five-year plan the national income grew by 3.2 per cent, while capital investment went up by 3.8 per cent. Although small, this difference is encouraging.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

Yevgeny NESTERENKO

Bolshoi's soloist Yevgeny Nesterenko is the winner of the 1982 Léa Prize for literature, fine arts, and architecture for his performance of the part of Ivan Susanin in Glinka's opera at the Bolshoi, and for his concert programmes in 1977-1980.

Boris Godunov in Nesterenko's layaute, and he has sung him at all the major theatres of the world. "Emotionally and physically, this is one of the most difficult parts," says the singer. "Whatever I do in 'Boris Godunov' has been prompted by Mussorgsky's genius. It sets my breathing and my heartbeat accordingly. I seem to be experiencing the sensations which Boris himself must have felt, and I set my psyche and body accordingly. The influences of the music and the intonations of my voice. Mussorgsky's genius lies in his truth."

Nesterenko possesses a powerful voice full of metal and he presents it nobly and dexterously. He subdues the strength and the beauty of his voice first and foremost to the expressiveness of the image he creates. This is characteristic of all the leading bass parts which he has sung over the past ten years at the Bolshoi.

"I cannot get used to this happiness," he says. "Yet, it could have been all different."

When he was young, Nesterenko was not going to be a singer. His hobbies lay with mathematics and exact sciences. He dreamed of becoming an engineer. He certainly sang as amateur parties. On the insistence of his father he went to an engineering and construction college. In his third year at the college, he went to for singing, and became student at the Leningrad Conservatoire. After a few years with the Kirov Opera and Ballet, he sang his debut at Kochubei in Tchaikovsky's "Mazurka" at the Bolshoi in Moscow. Today, his repertoire contains nearly twenty parts.



Among the distinctive qualities of his art are the rich and expressive intonations of his voice, a deep penetration into the meaning of the musical pieces and characters he is performing and splendid acting.

The varied concert programmes performed by Nesterenko include Russian songs, romances and chamber pieces. He performs each of them as if it were a play on its own always opening up something new to the audience. He has made many translations of the texts of chamber pieces by Schubert, Bech, and Beethoven. At present, he is preparing the main part for the opera "The Demon" by Anton Rubinstein. He is also taking part in the recording the opera "The Mermaid" by Dargomyzhsky to which he is singing the Miller.

Margarita ANOKHINA

New composition by Alfred Shnitke

Alfred Shnitke, a talented Soviet composer, has written music for the performance of "Census", an adaptation of Gogol's poem "Dead Souls". The composition was for the first time

FACTS and EVENTS

Bolshoi. The Tchaikovsky Opera and Ballet Theatre in the city of Perm has staged a two-night performance of the opera "War and Peace" by Sergei Prokofiev, just as the composer originally intended.

Exhibitions. "Landscapes in 19th-20th-century Russian Painting" is on exhibition which has opened in the Russian Museum in Leningrad. Nearly four hundred oils and watercolours on display have been sent by major Soviet art museums, picture galleries and numerous private collections.

Cinema. "An Unfinished Project for the Mochanov Project" by art director Nikita Mikhalkov is on in cinemas in the United States. After the first showing "The New York Times" noted that the splendid play of the actors and the art director's ingenuity ensured the film a brilliant success.

performed in Moscow. The "Census" was played by the recently formed State Symphony Orchestra of the USSR Ministry of Culture under the baton of Gennady Rozhdestvensky in the Grand Hall of the Conservatoire. The outstanding conductor was the first interpreter of many of Shnitke's works.

The music to "Census" is spectacular and highly idiomatic.

Five Austrian and ten Soviet pairs (from Moscow, Leningrad, Vilnius and Kaunas) will show

their art in Soviet, European and Latin American programmes. The competition will be judged by a jury including well-known ballroom dancers from the USSR, Austria, Czechoslovakia and the FRG. The contest programme concludes on May 13 with demonstration performances to feature the winners as well as two known Soviet pairs of Stanislav and Lyudmila Popov, Ceslav and Jurij Novakova and some West German top-notch pairs.

Marina DAVYDOVA

Ballroom dancers compete in Lithuania

The ballroom dance contest featuring USSR and Austrian dancers is going on in the Lithuanian cities of Kaunas and Vilnius. First such competition among dancing pairs was held last year in Austria.

Thirty-four countries took part in this year's programme, the fourth such contest so far.

Marina DAVYDOVA

Club v Corky Torpedo, 14—Moscow Spartak v Moscow Dynamo. Both days 0.45 p.m.

CONCERT HALLS

Central Concert Hall (1 Moskovskaya Embankment, Rossha Hotel), 11, 12—"Belle Youth" variety programme featuring artists from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia.

Variety Theatre (20/2 Bersenevskaya Embankment), 11—Singer Irina Sartzel, 12, 13, 14—A variety programme "Even a Cat Appreciates a Kind Word" featuring Yevgeny Palatsky.

Tchaikovsky Concert Hall (31 Gorky St.), 11—Lithuanian Folk Ensemble, 12—Azerbaijan Song and Dance Ensemble, 13—Russian Folk Instrumental Orchestra of the National Radio and TV Network.

FILMS

Week of Czechoslovak Film Cinema: "Praga" (10 Nekrasova Maslova St.), 10, 11—Singer Irina Sartzel, 12, 13, 14—A variety programme "Even a Cat Appreciates a Kind Word" featuring Yevgeny Palatsky.

EXHIBITIONS

Tretiakov Gallery (10 Lekhinsky Lane). After a four-month period the main display of the Tretiakov Gallery has been reopened, featuring 1800-2000

century Russian art daily, except Monday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Metro Novokuznetskaya.

Exhibition Hall, BPSSE Artists Union (45b Gorky St.). An exhibition of paintings by Tatar and Tatar Zairinov is on view, daily, except Monday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. On weekends, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Metro Mayakovskaya.

FOOTBALL

Dynamo Stadium, 11—Central Army Club v Lenigrad Zenit, 7 p.m.

Torpedo Stadium (4 Vostochnaya St.), 12—Moscow Torpedo v Minsk Dynamo, 7 p.m.

ICE HOCKEY

Lenin Central Stadium, Small Sport Arenas, 13—Central Army Trolleybuses, 1, 2, 3.

FOLK ART PAGEANT IN MOSCOW

The Alan folk dance group from North Ossetia, (below), and a Yakut ensemble won a lot of praise at the current "Moscow Stars" festival in the Soviet capital.

Photos by Andrei Knyazev and Andrei Stepanov

WHAT'S ON!

May 11-14

THEATRES

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.), 11—Concert by leading soloists, 12—Concert by Bolshoi soloists, 13—Shchedrin, "Dead Souls" (opera), 14—Double-bill Rimsky-Korsakov, "Mozart and Salieri"; Tchaikovsky, "Iolanta" (operas).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinaya St.), 12—Carabin, "Porgy and Bess" (opera), 13—Balasanyan, "Shakuntala" (ballet), 14—Tchaikovsky, "The Queen of Spades" (opera).

Opera Theatre, (6 Pushkinaya St.), 11, 13—Concerts by artists from Czechoslovakia and the GDR, 14—Miliutin, "Girls in a Flurry".

Chamber Musical Theatre (71 Leningradsky Prospekt), 12, 13, 14—Double-bill: Brecht, Well, "Seven Fatals", Offenbach, "Operetta Hour".

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WEATHER

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Cloudy with clear spells,

showers May 11-12, wind W.

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and +12° to +16° during the day. Slightly warmer later on.

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